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## February 21.

Mr. Vaux, Vice-President, in the chair.

Nineteen members present.

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## February 28.

The President, Dr. Ruschenberger, in the chair.

Twenty-one members present.

The following were elected members:—

Caleb Cresson, J. B. White, M.D., William. P. Jenks, Henry T. Peck, Archibald McIntyre, John McLaughlin, Lewis Thompson, George Thompson, Rachel L. Bodley, Lieut. Clarence E. Dutton, S. J. W. Mintzer, M.D., Elizabeth Shreve, Charles C. Phillips, Richard Morris Smith, S. Warren O'Neil, Charles T. Yerkes, Jr.

S. B. Buckley was elected a correspondent.

On favorable report of the committee, a paper "On Certain Species of Falconidæ, Tetraonidæ, and Anatidæ," by Prof. A. Newton, was ordered to be printed.

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## March 7.

The President, Dr. Ruschenberger, in the chair.

Twenty-nine members present.

The following paper was presented for publication:—

"Descriptions of new species of Invertebrate fossils from the Carboniferous and Devonian Rocks of Ohio." By F. B. Meek.

The death of Dr. Charles M. Wetherill was reported.

Mr. Thomas Meehan referred to some observations he made before the Academy last autumn in regard to a peculiar storing up of turpentine in the common insect, *Reduvius novenarius*. Since then entomologists had been investigating the use for which this turpentine was employed, without success. He was now able to report that it was for the purpose of fastening its eggs on the branches of trees, and for sticking them together. Also, in probability, as a means of protection against enemies and the weather. The eggs of the *Reduvius* were inserted in groups, and each set upright one against another with the turpentine, like the cell in a honeycomb. It had hitherto been supposed by entomologists that the matter used for this purpose was a secretion of the insect itself; but so far as he could judge by the senses, the matter used was merely turpentine, and no doubt the turpentine he had observed the insect storing up in the fall.

Mr. Meehan exhibited some flowers of the common *Bouvardia leiantha* of the green-houses, and of the hardy *Deutzia gracilis*, and referred to his papers, published a few years ago in the Proceedings of the Academy, on practical diœcism in the trailing Arbutus (*Epigæa repens*) and *Mitchella repens*, in which he pointed out that these plants, though apparently hermaphrodite, had the stamens and pistils of different characters in separate plants, and were, therefore, subject to the laws of cross-fertilization as indicated by Darwin. He had had his attention called to the *Bouvardia*, by Mr. Tatnall, of Wilmington, Del., as furnishing a similar instance to that of *Epigæa* and *Mitchella*, to the same natural order as which the *Cinchoneous* division of *Rubiaceæ* the *Bouvardia* belonged. These had some plants with the pistils exserted, while in others only the stamens were visible at the mouth of the corolla tube. Mr. Tatnall had not had the matter suggested to him early enough to say that it was so in all cases; but he believed that these flowers, which practically might be termed pistillate and staminate, were found entirely on separate plants. This is a very important fact, as the *Bouvardia* is not raised from seeds in green-houses, but from cuttings of the roots, and, therefore, all these plants with separate sexes must have been produced from one original individual, without the *intervention of seed*, and thus confirm the position advanced in a previous paper of the speaker on "Bird variations," namely, that variations in form, and, by logical inference, new species, may arise without seminal intervention; and that in this way identical species may appear in separated localities, without the necessity of supposing an emigration from one small point, as Darwinism now does.

In the specimens of *Deutzia gracilis* were two forms of flowers on the same plant. Besides the large ones with stamens and pistils apparently perfect as generally seen, there were numerous small flowers in which the petals were only partially developed. The filaments were entirely wanting, but the anthers were as perfect, if not larger than in what we should call the perfect flowers. Any one could see that these small flowers were the result of deficient nutriment, and would be apt to pass the matter over with this simple reflection; but he wished to emphasize the fact that this defective nutrition rendered the female organs inoperative, while the male organs were still able to exercise their functions; thus affording another instance, if any more be needed, of the truth of his theory of sex, namely, that with defective nutrition, the female sex is the first to disappear; and that only under the highest conditions of vitality is the female sex formed.

[May 9,

In the case of the *Bouvardia* a similar law was seen. The most vigorous stems, or, as they would technically be called, woody axes, produced the female flowers.

PROF. COPE made some observations on a Batrachian of the coal measures, *Sauropleura remex*, Cope. A specimen more perfect than the type recently obtained by Prof. Newberry, exhibited posterior limbs such as had been ascribed to the *S. pectinata*. The vertebræ posterior to this point were perfectly preserved, and supported the remarkable processes to the end.

He also stated that the *Oestocephalus amphiuminus* was distinct, and was furnished with branchial arches of branchihyal bones, for the support of external gills.

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MARCH 14.

The President, Dr. RUSCHENBERGER, in the chair.

Seventy-one members present.

The publication of the proceedings for September, October, November, and December, 1870, was announced.

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MARCH 21.

Dr. CARSON, Vice-President, in the chair.

Eighteen members present.

PROF. LEIDY made the following remarks on *Tænia mediocanellata*. Recently, one of our ablest and most respected practitioners of medicine submitted to my examination a tapeworm which had been discharged from a young man, after the use of the *Aspidium filix-mas*. The physician, in giving an account of the case, stated that he had previously treated the patient for another affection, in which raw-beef sandwiches had been prescribed for food. After looking at the worm, I remarked that it appeared to be the *Tænia mediocanellata*, a species which I had not before seen, and added that the patient had probably become infected from a larva swallowed with the raw-beef sandwiches. The specimen consisted of the greater part of the worm, broken into several pieces. Including some lost portions, it was estimated to have been upwards of thirty feet in length. Unfortunately, the head proved to be absent; but, so far as characters could be obtained from the specimen, in the form of the segments, position of the genital orifices, and the condition of the ovaries, it agreed with the description given of *T. mediocanellata*, rather than with